APS Awards $31,800 to Its 2016 Undergraduate Research Excellence Fellows

Six Fellows in the 2016 Cohort

Bethesda, Md. (May 25, 2016)—The American Physiological Society (APS) is pleased to announce its 2016 Undergraduate Research Excellence Fellowship (UGREF) winners. Fellowship recipients spend the summer in the laboratory of an established scientist and APS member. Now in its second year, this program seeks to encourage students to pursue careers as basic research scientists. In 2016, 26 applicants worldwide vied for the six fellowship positions.

2016 UGREF Fellows:
(APS member-hosts are listed under each Fellow’s name)

Tala Azar – Macaulay Honors College at The City College of New York
Brian B. Ratliff, PhD – New York Medical College

Danny Linggonegoro – University of Iowa
Justin Grobe, PhD – University of Iowa

Grace Swaim – Emory University
Mitsi Blount, PhD – Emory University School of Medicine

Daniel Tavakol – University of Virginia
Shayn Peirce-Cottler, PhD – University of Virginia

Gabriela Wong – Hillsdale College
Linda Samuelson, PhD – University of Michigan

Jacob Young – University of Missouri-Columbia
Kevin J. Cummings, PhD – University of Missouri

Participants are selected based on academic merit, the quality of the proposed experience and the availability of appropriate faculty mentors. Students must have at least nine months or more of research experience in a lab to be eligible.

Each Fellow receives a $4,000 stipend during the 10-week summer research experience and an additional $1,300.
in travel funds to present his or her research at the Experimental Biology 2017 meeting in Chicago, which is expected to attract nearly 14,000 attendees. Research hosts receive $300 for student lab supplies.

UGREF Fellows participate in hands-on research and learn to develop a hypothesis, design and troubleshoot experiments, collect and analyze data, and write and present results. In addition, Fellows have the opportunity to:

- network with other undergraduates interested in biomedical research,
- explore the nature of research and the scientific process,
- investigate career options and what it takes to find career success,
- pose their career questions to members of the APS Career Opportunities in Physiology Committee,
- learn about common ethical issues in figure and text preparation, and
- write a mini-manuscript based on previous data.

The UGREF program is sponsored by the APS Career Opportunities in Physiology Committee and funded by the APS Council.

To set up an interview with one of the Fellows or a research host or to find out more about APS and its educational and award program initiatives, visit the APS website or contact Miranda Byse, APS program manager, Life Science Teaching Resource Community and professional skills training (240-743-8045), or visit the APS UGREF website.

###

About the APS Education Department: The APS supports a variety of educational activities, including programs and fellowships to encourage the development of young scientists at the undergraduate and graduate levels, with a particular focus on women and underrepresented minorities. APS also supports refresher courses and teaching awards promoting continued excellence in education at the professional level. APS is a proud past recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM).

About the APS: Physiology is the study of how molecules, cells, tissues and organs function in health and disease. Established in 1887, the American Physiological Society (APS) was the first U.S. society in the biomedical sciences field. The Society represents more than 11,000 members and publishes 14 peer-reviewed journals with a worldwide readership.